22 MARCH 2020

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Hello Cousins & Fellow Researchers,

Over the past several months through Y-DNA test results it has been proven that several lines that were thought to be connected to the couple John BURNETT and his wife Lucretia are wrong.

John BURNETT and his male descendants are Group-R1B-C. Susan (KROMER) HUNT leads the Y-DNA Group, as well as the Facebook and GEDmatch group. I am a female descendant of John & Lucretia, mine is a direct line back to their son John BURNETT & his wife Amy GATEWOOD.

Over the course of several months I have been working with Susan (KROMER) HUNT on correcting the paper trail and documentation of the 1st two generations of John & Lucretia BURNETT's family that are listed in Vol. 1 of "The Burnett's and Their Connections".

For those of you that may have used this work over the years to verify and document your family line, please be advised there are some errors in the work, mostly in the first three generations. These errors include changed names, dates, also some family links that are incorrect. Any published work can contain errors. Explanations for the errors can be attributed to, **incomplete research, misinterpretation of documents, wrong conclusions of family connections.** We have all used one of these three volumes in our research, or we have collaborated with someone who has, and we have followed false trails based on some of the information in this material.

On the upside there is correct information in these three volumes, just use them with caution. **Always check other users' sources before adding their data to your tree.** Follow up with your own documentation, proofread every fact that you take from one of the books that pertain to your branch, and as good researchers, always cite your source. Another word of caution be very careful using records hints on sites like **Ancestry.com**, not every hint the site suggests will apply to your ancestor.

Recent YDNA results have proven that the group of BURNETT brother's in Hanover County, Virginia who are said to be the sons of Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1717/18, the supposed son of John BURNETT, who married Amy GATEWOOD are not related.[1] With YDNA results and correct paper documentation research I feel we are finally able to sort these families out.

Question: Who was Jeremiah BURNETT of Essex County, Virginia, born 1717/18? He is credited by June BORK as being the father of six brothers who lived in Hanover County, Virginia.

1. Jeremiah BURNETT II, born 1740 Talbot County, Maryland, died before 1816 Wayne County, Kentucky
2. Joseph BURNETT, born by 1743-died after 4 March 1813 Knox County, Tennessee
3. Isaac BURNETT, born abt. 1738-1740, died abt. 1803-4 Hanover County, Virginia
4. Isham BURNETT, born abt. 1738-9
5. Benjamin Bond BURNETT, born 1740s, died 1801 Hanover County, Virginia
6. John BURNETT, born abt. 1750, died in the Revolutionary War at Valley Forge
7. Charles BURNETT, most likely shown in the Henry County and Grainger County, Tennessee records, was of this family[2]

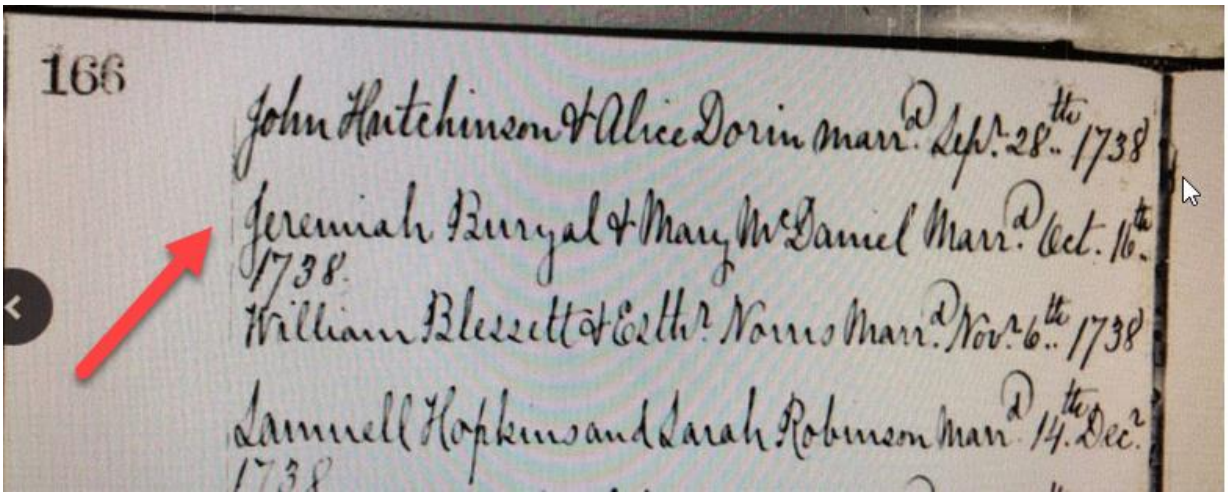
Numerous online family trees have credited "Jeremiah BURNETT", born 1717/18 in Essex County, Virginia as being the son of John BURNETT & Amy GATEWOOD of Essex County. Without fail, all of them cite their source for this claim as, "The BURNETT's and their Connections" Vol.1, by June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989.

CLAIM by June BORK*:* *"Jeremiah BURNETT I, son of John BURNETT and Amy GATEWOOD, born 1718, he died after 22 Oct 1773, place unknown. He married Mary McDANIEL 1st in Talbot Co., Maryland, 2nd Rebecca BROWNE in Burlington, New Jersey." June goes on to say, "I found no mention of Jeremiah until the 1738 record of the above marriages." "He did not surface again in the Virginia records until the 1763 tax list of Hanover County, where he is shown with 100 acres and his son Isaac with 128 acres. The Hanover tax lists did not begin again until 1782, 19 years later and Jeremiah was then missing. Isaac was still there with 319 acres and 9 white tithables, including his son John who was a minor, age 16 to 20".*[3]

A marriage record for Mary McDANIEL has been located but she did NOT marry a BURNETT; to date no marriage record has been found for Rebecca BROWNE to a Jeremiah BURNETT

Name: Mary McDANIEL, Event Type: Marriage, Marriage Date, 16 OCT 1738 Marriage, Place: Maryland, USA Organization Name: St Peter's Parish Spouse: Jeremiah BURYAL

(When you view the record it clearly says Jeremiah BURYAL not BURNETT)[4]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John Hutchinson & Alice Dorin marr.d Sept.r 28.th 1738
Jeremiah Buryal & Mary McDaniel Marr.d Oct.r 16.th
1738.
William Blizzett & Esth.r Norris Marr.d Nov.r 6.th 1738
Samuell Hopkins and Sarah Robinson Marr.d 14.th Dec.r

Question: Why would a man from Virginia go to Maryland to marry, and then go on to New Jersey to marry again?

These next records according to June BORK belong to Jeremiah BURNETT 1717/1718

1774- MAY Court Orders Bedford VA, Jeremiah BURNETT paid 8.6.6 for service in Capt. William CAMPBELL's Company under Lt. Daniel TRIGG & Alexander CUMMINGS.

1774 JUN 7- Montgomery Co., VA-Plot & Grant Bk A:108, Grants under Royal Land Company by Order of the Council- {the charge was 3lds per 100 acres}. Jeremiah BURNETT surveyed 256 acres on Middle Fork of Holston River joining lands of James THOMPSON, where he now lives.

1777- Bedford County Will Bk (Note by MNB, no page number is given in this citation)[5]

31 MAR 1781, Court Orders, Bedford Co., Virginia, Jeremiah BURNETT is listed in Lt. TRIGGS Company of Militia in Revolutionary War. Enlisted in Bedford Co. under Capt. Wm. CAMPBELL.

These records CAN NOT belong to Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1717/18, as June BORK states in the first paragraph of her narrative for Jeremiah , **"Jeremiah BURNETT I, son of John BURNETT and Amy GATEWOOD, born 1718, he died after 22 Oct 1773, place unknown**".[6]

How does a man who died after 22 OCT 1773, survey land in 1774 and serve in the Revolutionary War in 1781 at the age of sixty-three? June also says he died place "unknown". If he was the father of the six BURNETT brothers in Hanover County, Virginia, why wasn't he living there when he died? He had several sons who settled in Hanover County, it makes sense that he would be living near his children.

None of the available facts fit, the records listed do belong to a Jeremiah BURNETT, but not Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1717/18. They do fit for three of the six brothers, Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1740 Talbot County, Maryland-died before 1816 Wayne County, Kentucky, and his brother, Isaac BURNETT, born abt. 1738-1740, died abt. 1803-4 Hanover County, Virginia and Benjamin Bond BURNETT, born 1740s-died 1801 Hanover County, Virginia

On page 52 in Vol.1 June BORK states that *Jeremiah was born after his father wrote his will on 17 Sep 1717, and before he died 21 MAY 1718 when his will was proved in court. She claims this is the reason he is not listed in his fathers will. She claims he was a* ***"POSTHUMOUS CHILD".***[7]
Under the laws of the time period if this son Jeremiah born in 1718 after his father's will was written and born after his death, he still would have inherited under the laws in place at the time. A POSTHUMOUS CHILD is one born after the father's death or taken from the body mother after death. Such a child is regarded by the law as already born at the of the parent's death and when the father has made no provision in his will for the child the will is so far revoked as to allow it to take the properly or such as it would have been entitled to if it had been born before the father's death.[8]

This fact would mean that his name should have been mentioned in court records at some point between the time of his father's will being probated and the estate being settled, **no records for this happening have been located for him**. Also no records for a man by the name of Jeremiah BURNETT surface in Essex County until Jeremiah (1737-1813) who married Mildred UPSHAW becomes of age**.**
In the will of John BURNETT, **supposed father of Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1718**, John names his wife and five children,

I - John BURNETT of Essex County being Sick and weak of body but of sound & perfect memory ... do make this my last Will & Testament in manner & form following:

#1- I give unto my dear & loving wife ***Amey BURNETT*** *one Negro named Will to her & her heirs forever.*
#2 -I give to my son ***John BURNETT*** *a Mulatto girl named Cate to him & his heirs forever.*
#3 -I give to my son ***Joseph BURNETT*** *a Negro girl named Sue to him & his heirs forever.*
#4 - I give to my daughter ***Elizabeth BURNETT*** *a Negro boy named Sam to her and her heirs forever.*

*#5 - I give to my daughter **Anne BURNETT** a Negro woman named Jenny to her and her heirs forever.*
*#6 -I give to my daughter **Amy BURNETT** a Negro girl named Moll to her & heirs forever.*
*#7 - Further my desire is that my **Two sons, John BURNETT & Joseph BURNETT** be of age at the year of 16 that they receive their estate then.*
 # 8 - I give all the rest of my estate equally to be divided between my loving wife and my FIVE CHILDREN to them & their heirs forever.
#9 - Further my desire is that all my land may be equally divided between my two sons, John & Joseph at age 16.
#10 - I hereby constitute ordain & appoint my loving wife Amey BURNETT & my well beloved brother Thomas BURNETT Junr my whole & sole Executors of this my last Will & Testament - some of my Will being on the backside of the sheet of paper wherefore I have affixed my hand & seal this 17th day of September 1717...
/s/ John BURNETT
Wit: James BOUGHAN, John FARGESON, Thomas RALTON.[9]

There was a Jeremiah BURNETT born into this family, he was born about 1737 in Essex County, Virginia and died in November 1813 in Lunenburg County, Virginia. He was the son of Joseph BURNETT born about 1710 in Essex County, Virginia, died 1771 Essex County, Virginia; he married his cousin Clara GATEWOOD. They had six children; one of them was a son named Jeremiah. This Jeremiah was the gr-grandson of John and Lucretia BURNETT.

Children of Joseph BURNETT and Amy GATEWOOD were.

1. Richard (1732-1796) married Mary BOUGHAN, she is listed, as Mary BARNETT, as one of the daughters of John BOUGHAN (Major) in his will in 1769
2. Jeremiah (1737-1813) married Mildred UPSHAW
3. Leonard (1739-1777) married Amy GATEWOOD, daug. of James GATEWOOD & Penelope FULLERTON.
4. Rachel (1741-1788) married Benjamin GATEWOOD, son of James GATEWOOD & Penelope FULLERTON
5. Joseph (1743-1784) married Elizabeth (?)
6. Amy (1747-1792) married John GATEWOOD, son of James GATEWOOD & Penelope FULLERTON[10]

June BORK states *"In 1771, Jeremiah 's Brother Joseph BURNETT died intestate in Essex county. Joseph was a wealthy man with land in Essex, his home plantation, and land in Dinwiddie and Caroline counties."*[11]

June also states " *On 22 October 1773 Joseph's son Richard BURNETT filed his administrator account with the court in Essex and listed on this account was the following words,* ***by articles inventoried and not sold which his Brother Jeremiah claims*** *totaling 15 pounds, seven shillings and six pence."* [12]

Joseph had sons named Jeremiah, Joseph, Leonard**, but when these names were listed by Richard,** he said only their names and did not give relationship to his father meaning Richard had to define who the above Jeremiah was, this statement proves without a doubt that Richard was referring to "two Jeremiah's" "one the brother and one the son" the name of Jeremiah is still used today in the BURNETT family".

In the book **"**John and Amy GATEWOOD and their Descendants 1666-1986**"** by Carol J. GOTHBERG we find the following entry,

Jeremiah BURNETT b ca 1717- He was not mentioned in his father's will, prob after his death. Richard's adm acc't in 1773 in Essex Co., Va. among other items, "To Thos. BURNETT's acc't proved" "By articles inventoried & not sold which his bro Jeremiah claimed." Joseph's son Jeremiah, got some horses which he had in his possession & then the bro Jeremiah mentioned as above."[13]

An examination of the available court records in the following case between the siblings of Joseph BURNETT and Clara GATEWOOD clearly defines their relationships to each other.

These records pertain to Joseph BURNETT, son of John & Amy, these are his sons listed in these records, from the court records below of Essex County, this case continued for some time,

16 Dec 1771, Richard BURNETT made a motion he be adm. of est. of Joseph. Others ordered to divide slaves among the widow & children.[14]

JUL 1772, orator and oratrice Leonard BURNETT and Amy his wife complained that "some considerable time ago your orator made his addresses by way of courtship to your oratrix and in order to induce your oratrix to intermarry with your orator his Father Joseph BURNETT did expressly promise to give unto your orator among other things a Tract of Land…" which he received. In 1771 Joseph died intestate, and no deed had been issued for the land. Richard BURNETT, Joseph's eldest son, now claims the land."[15]

Richard answered this complaint on 19 AUG 1783 by stating that the land had never been his father's property to begin with. [16]

The following is a partial abstract of the record

17 APR 1783, Division of Estate of Joseph BURNETT, dec'd. Negroes belonging to the Estate according to appraisement a complete copy, Mrs Clary BURNETT: 10 negro slaves allotted to you as appraised, Jeremiah BURNETT: To 4 negroes received In YOUR FATHERS LIFETIME: Negro George, 60 lbs; girl, Hannah, appraised to 50 lbs, but when he rec'd her, worth not more than 30 lbs; Woman Damsel, 60 lbs; girl, Moll appraised to 40 lbs, but when he rec'd her worth not more than 25 lbs, 195 lbs Llldday, 30 lbs; Nelly, 15 lbs, 45 lbs Received from Benjamin GATEWOOD 4 lbs By your proportionable part of your dec•d fathers slaves 244 lbs[17]

It's very clear from this record this Jeremiah is the son of Joseph BURNETT and Clara GATEWOOD, he is not the Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1717/18, supposed son of John BURNETT and Amy GATEWOOD.

On 12 MAY 1786, John GATEWOOD gave a deposition in this case. That as a marriage contract, Joseph BURNETT had promised land to Leonard BURNETT and as many negroes as Amy GATEWOOD had. About a year after their marriage Joseph had not given them any land, saying he had several pieces, but all were too poor. He then bought 400 acres of Richard HODGES, whereon Leonard had been for 10 or 11 years. Taken at the home of Mrs. Penelope GATEWOOD.[18]

For information on the GATEWOOD Family, see: GOTHBERG, Carol J., "John and Amy GATEWOOD, and Their Descendants 1666–1986", Baltimore: Gateway Press Inc., 1987. This book can be downloaded from the catalogue in the FamilySearch Website.

NOTE: Carol J. GOTHBERG published her book on the GATEWOOD family in **1987**; June (BALDWIN) BORK published hers in **1989**. Both works make the claim about Jeremiah born 1718 being the son of John and Amy (GATEWOOD) BURNETT. **The information in both books is IDENTICAL**, it looks like one copied the other. Were they collaborating with each other at one time on the two families of John BURNETT and John GATEWOOD?

A note of interest, a statement by June BORK*," The Burnetts and Their Connections" in three volumes, were born from 35 years of extensive study. Twenty-eight years by me and* ***10 years by another researcher who retired and gave me all that she had done.***[19]

Question: Why doesn't June BORK credit the other researcher who handed over 10 years' worth of research work to her? Who was the other researcher? Was it Carol J. GOTHBERG? Carol does not acknowledge June (BALDWIN) BORK in her book on the GATEWOOD Family, which has quite a bit of information on the BURNETT Family. June only mentions Carol J. GOTHBERG twice in her books as shown below.

"1788 Mar 17 · Legislative Pettions (1777·1797) & Appeals & Land Causes 1777·1807, by William Lindsay HOPKINS, page 175 [Submitted by Mrs. Carol GOTHBERG of EL Cajon, California]. "Jeremiah BURNETT, Joseph BURNETT, Rachel BURNETT, widow & Exec. of Benjamin GATEWOOD, dec'd; Amy BURNETT, widow & Admr. of Leonard BURNETT, dec'd; John GATEWOOD & Amy GATEWOOD, his wife; John GOODWIN & Clara GOODWIN, his wife •• vs Richard BURNETT. Court orders payment to Jeremiah BURNETT, Joseph BURNETT, Amy GATEWOOD, Clara GOODWIN, the representatives of Rachel GATEWOOD, dec'd, formerly Rachel BURNETT; the representatives of Leonard BURNETT dec'd •• their share of the personal estate of Joseph BURNETT, late of Essex County, deceased."[20]

"Here, Gorden GATEWOOD said Mrs. Carol Jean (GATEWOOD) GOTHBERG of El Cajon, California furnished information on some of the families. Carol also has written a book, John and Amy GATEWOOD and Their Descendants 1666·1986 by Gatewood Press. Her address is 15420 Old Highway 80, Space 190, El Cajon Calif. 92021. Carol did a beautiful job in presenting the GATEWOOD's, (1987) Gorden's line descends from Richard GATEWOOD and Elizabeth BOWCOCK"[21]

It seems very clear from the available court records for this family, that the records were misinterpreted by either one or both researchers.

Back to the original question, who was Jeremiah BURNETT, born 1717/18?

Quite simple, **he does not exist; this person was fabricated**. There are no documents to prove the existence of this person, NONE. Why was he fabricated? Was it poor or incomplete research? I do not have a solid answer, I do have a theory, two of them as a matter of fact. First the researcher needed a progenitor for these six BURNETT siblings in Hanover County, one of them who was their ancestor, second, she wanted to tie their line back to a titled Scottish line. It was the researcher's belief that John BURNETT II was the son of "John BURNETT the Merchant of Aberdeen", ironically, recent discoveries have proven this claim to also be false.

The good news is that the six brothers in Hanover County, Virginia do exist. There is documentation for them and YDNA tests from their descendant's link them to each other (R1B-A YDNA testers). One fact is certain; their father is NOT Jeremiah, son of John BURNETT and Amy GATEWOOD. Currently, we do not know who the progenitor is of the six BURNETT brothers in Hanover County, Virginia. Research is ongoing to uncover his identity. Several researchers are looking at the possibility that he may have come out of York County, Virginia. I wish this group much success in their search for the truth. I feel they are close to connecting the dots. To all of you, please feel free to reach out, I am always ready to help another BURNETT researcher in their journey.

My next installment will be on a correction on **William BURNETT, supposed brother of John BURNETT, Sr.** who is listed on page 3 in Volume 1 of "The Burnetts and Their Connections".

TEASER: Guess what, he did not exist either! More to follow.

Happy Hunting,

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ENDNOTES

[1] YDNA testing done at Family Tree DNA Burnett Surname Group
[2] "The BURNETT's and Their Connections", June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989, pg.53
[3] "The BURNETT's and their Connections", June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989, pg. 52
[4] Ancestry.com. Pennsylvania and New Jersey, Church and Town Records, 1669-2013 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.
[5] The BURNETT's and their Connections", June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989, pg. 52
[6] Ibid.
[7] Ibid.
[8] Library of Universal Knowledge. A reprint of the last (1880) Edinburgh and London edition of Chamber's Encyclopedia, with copious additions by American editors, pg. 403 https://books.google.com/books?id=XMoUAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA403&lpg=PA403&dq=children+born+posthumously+will+was+written+in+colonial+virginia&source=bl&ots=4dEghdT1qc&sig=ACfU3U2lK86G4F0G9SOm4vFdg0TwW3WlHg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiHg8vHgonoAhU9ITQIHVRTCtYQ6AEwBHoECAoQAQ#v=onepage&q=children%20born%20posthumously%20will%20was%20written%20in%20colonial%20virginia&f=false
[9] Essex County Will, Deed & Order Books: Deed & Will Bk 15:45-46.
[10] Gothberg, Carol J., "John and Amy GATEWOOD, and Their Descendants 1666–1986" Baltimore, MD, Gateway Press Inc., 1987, pgs. VI, VI
[11] The BURNETT's and their Connections", June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989, pg. 52
[12] Ibid.
[13] Gothberg, Carol J., "John and Amy GATEWOOD, and Their Descendants 1666–1986" Baltimore, MD, Gateway Press Inc., 1987, pg. VI
[14] Essex County Order Bk 28 p.221
[15] Essex County, Virginia, Box Chancery No. 27, item 27-L-3, Filed July 1772.
[16] Essex County, Virginia, Box Chancery No. 27, item 27-L-4
[17] Essex County Will Book 13, pgs.,402, 404
[18] Essex County, Virginia, Box Chancery No. 27, item 27-L-16
[19] BTRVETC-L Digest, Volume 98: Issue 37,3 Jun 1998 http://www-personal.umich.edu/~cgaunt/etc/v98i37.txt
[20] "The BURNETT's and their Connection's", June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989, pgs. 50
[21] "The BURNETT's and their Connection's", June (BALDWIN) BORK, 1989, pgs. 185